

NANTWICH RURAL DISTRICT.

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**Annual Report**  
of the  
**Medical Officer of Health**  
for the Year 1938,

by

**O. H. BLACKLAY, M.D., F.R.C.S. Edin.,**

Temporary Medical Officer of Health.

To which is appended the Report of

**JOHN S. TOWNLEY,**

Sanitary Inspector and

Cleansing Superintendent.

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F. POOLEY & CO., PRINTERS, NANTWICH.



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# NANTWICH RURAL DISTRICT.

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## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres), 100,823.

Registrar General's estimate of resident population (middle of 1938). 24,900.

Number of inhabited houses (end of 1938) according to the rate books, 7,428.

Rateable Value (1st April, 1938), £111,098.

Sum represented by a penny rate, £442.

## SANITARY STAFF.

Temporary Medical Officer of Health (part time), O. H. Blacklay, M.D., F.R.C.S. (Edin.).

Sanitary Inspector (full time officer), John S. Townley.

Additional Sanitary Inspector (full time officer), H. L. Shepley.

Sanitary Engineer and Surveyor (full time officer), H. Crabtree.

## SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The social conditions remain unaltered. The residents of the district surrounding Crewe and Nantwich are employed in these towns. The greater proportion of the population find employment in agriculture, which is the chief industry of the district. Allied industries, in the form of milk factories and a whey products factory, are situated in the area. There is one clothing factory in the district, which employs female labour. Unemployment is by no means extensive and agriculture is still faced with its problem of shortage of labour; this can only be overcome by the provision of houses which can be let at rents that agricultural workers can afford to pay. This latter matter is receiving the earnest attention of the Council.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total	Male	Female
Live Births { Legitimate	374	194	180
{ Illegitimate	19	8	11

Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 15·783.

Stillbirths                   ...                   21                   14                   7

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births, 16·622.

	Total	Male	Female
Deaths ... ..	305	153	152

Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 12'409.

Deaths from Puerperal causes:—

There were no deaths from Puerperal causes.

Death rate of infants under one year of age.

All Infants per 1,000 live births ... ..	55'979
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	56'149
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	52'621

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ... ..	33
Deaths from Measles „ ... ..	1
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ... ..	1
Deaths from Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age) ... ..	1

Particulars of any unusual or excessive mortality during the year which has received or requires comment—No comment necessary.

#### CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1938.

Causes of Death	All Ages		Totals
	M.	F.	
Other Liver Diseases ... ..	1	—	1
Other Digestive Diseases ... ..	1	3	4
Acute and Chronic Nephritis ... ..	5	3	8
Congenital Debility and Premature Birth ... ..	10	5	15
Senility ... ..	5	3	8
Other Defined Diseases ... ..	16	10	26
Suicide ... ..	1	—	1
Other Violence ... ..	3	5	8
Cancer ... ..	17	16	33
Diabetes ... ..	3	4	7
General Paralysis (Insane) ... ..	1	—	1
Cerebral Hæmorrhage ... ..	14	19	33
Heart Disease ... ..	40	52	92
Other Circulation Diseases ... ..	8	9	17
Bronchitis ... ..	5	3	8
Pneumonia (all forms) ... ..	10	7	17
Peptic Ulcer ... ..	2	2	4
Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	3	2	5
Other Tuberculosis ... ..	2	2	4
Diarrhœa ... ..	1	—	1

Causes of Death.				All Ages.		Total
				M.	F.	
Appendicitis	...	...	...	1	1	2
Measles	...	...	...	—	1	1
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	—	1	1
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	—	1	1
Diphtheria	...	...	...	1	—	1
Influenza	...	...	...	3	2	5
Cerebro Spinal Fever	...	...	...	—	1	1
Totals				153	152	305

## DEATHS.

The “standardised” death rate (calculated from the Registrar General’s comparability factor) for comparative purposes is 11·316.

The total number of deaths of infants under one year of age was 22 (14 males and 8 females), one of which was illegitimate.

There have been no causes of sickness or invalidity which have been specially noteworthy in this area during the year. The conditions of occupation and environments of the population are healthy.

## IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

In May a scheme of free immunisation of children against Diphtheria was launched by the Council.

The main outline of the scheme is that medical practitioners serving the rural area carry out three weekly or fortnightly injections, for which the Council pay a fee of six shillings per child. All serum is provided free of charge by me as required.

Publicity for the scheme was obtained by issuing an explanatory leaflet to ratepayers along with rate-demand notes. In addition I visited schools in the area and, with the co-operation of Head Teachers, forms were issued to children to be signed by parents consenting to immunisation and stating the name of their medical adviser, and in several instances immunisation was carried out at the school.

There are approximately 2,738 children of school age in the area.

Up to the end of the year 1,107 children have been immunised; this figure, of course, includes children under school age, where parents have arranged privately.

I have hope that many more parents will arrange for their children to receive this service, which is provided free, during the coming year.

## **LABORATORY FACILITIES.**

Bacteriological specimens are examined by the Public Health Laboratory of the University of Manchester and the Evans Biological Institute.

Samples of milk are examined at the Chester Royal Infirmary Laboratory.

Water samples are submitted to Messrs. Melling & Ardern, the County Analysts, Manchester.

## **AMBULANCE FACILITIES.**

There is a motor ambulance at the Isolation Hospital for the transport of infectious cases and a Red Cross motor ambulance is kept at Nantwich for the transport of non-infectious and accident cases.

The above ambulances are maintained by (1) the Nantwich Joint Hospital Board, of which the Rural District Council is a constituent authority; (2) by the Nantwich Urban and Rural District Councils jointly under agreement.

In my opinion the service is adequate.

## **NURSING ARRANGEMENTS.**

Professional nursing in the homes of the people in the District is by District Nurses, employed by voluntary associations. Nurses are stationed at Acton, Audlem, Bunbury, Doddington, Cholmondeley, Willaston, Worleston, Burleydam, Stapeley, and Shavington. These nurses act as midwives in their respective districts.

There is one registered but untrained midwife who practices in the District.

No special provision is made for the nursing of infectious cases in their own homes.

Nurses are employed by the County Council and are located in the Rural District; they exercise the duties of school nurses and health visitors to cases of tuberculosis.



## CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

The only existing centre of this type in the district is the Child Welfare Centre at Haslington. The Child Welfare Centres of Nantwich and Alsager are used by residents in the vicinity of these places.

## HOSPITALS.

There is a large Poor Law Hospital at Nantwich, which serves the Rural and Urban Districts of Nantwich and the Borough of Crewe.

There is an Isolation Hospital at Worleston. This Hospital is capable of accommodating twenty adults and thirty children, and of treating three diseases at the same time.

There is a Small-pox Hospital at Ravensmoor with room for six or at most eight patients.

There is a Cottage Hospital at Nantwich with accommodation for eighteen patients.

In addition to these institutions there exists at Wrenbury Hall, near Nantwich, an Agricultural and Industrial Colony for the residential treatment of Tuberculosis cases capable of some work. This institution was presented to the County Council shortly after the war by the British Red Cross Society and the St. John Ambulance Association.

## WATER EXTENSIONS CARRIED OUT DURING 1938.

Several lengths of water mains have been laid to supply building development in Broomhall, Faddiley, Haughton, Haslington, and Wistaston.

An extension of the mains to premises near Radway Green Station was carried out during the year.

In order to amplify the supply to Norbury and Wrenbury Frith the mains were joined between Ivy House and the Cross Road at Wrenbury Frith. This extension has improved the supply in these districts.

A length of mains was laid to supply new farm and buildings at Admiral's Gorse, Bridgemere.

The Cheshire County Council have laid a new main to Small Holdings on their Ridley estate and have laid an additional main to the Wrenbury Hall Colony.

A new 5-in. diameter main has been laid along Brookland Avenue, Wistaston, prior to the road being constructed under the Private Street Works Act.

## WATER EXTENSIONS PROPOSED FOR 1939.

The alterations to the water mains consequent upon bridge and road works being proceeded with at Birchall Brook Bridge, Hatherton, and Old Mill Bridge, Dodcott, will require to be made early in the year.

To meet the demand for water in the Valley Road area of Wistaston the Council have decided to apply to the Ministry for sanction to lay a 6-in. main from Rope Lane Bridge to Wells Green Corner.

Instructions have been received from the Council for the preparation of plans, etc., in detail for the sinking of a further borehole with oil driven pumping plant and extensions to softening plant at Bearstone.

Approval has been given for the preparation of a scheme for improving the supply to the Wrenbury Frith, Norbury, and Marbury districts by the installation of an automatic electrically operated boosting plant, but in view of the changed conditions of supply in these areas it may be possible to postpone the carrying out of the scheme for some time.

Housing estates in Wistaston are likely to be developed rapidly during the year and arrangements are being made to lay the necessary water mains.

## PARTICULARS OF WATER SUPPLY.

The water supplied from Bearstone has been chemically and bacteriologically analysed during the year and examinations will continue to be made at half-yearly intervals or more often should occasion arise. The results of the last examination are as follows:—

### PHYSICAL CHARACTERS.

A clear and colourless water, free from odour and deposit.

### ANALYTICAL RETURNS. (Results expressed in parts per 100,000).

Total saline matter in solution	...	...	27.6
Non-volatile (mineral) solids	...	...	22.5
Loss on ignition (organic and volatile matter)			5.1
Matter in suspension	..	...	Nil
Nature of ditto			
Total hardness	...	...	10.0
Temporary do.	...	...	17.0
Permanent do.	...	...	Nil

ANALYTICAL RETURNS (*continued*).

Combined chlorine	...	...	...	1'6
Toxic metals	...	...	...	Nil
Ammoniacal nitrogen	...	...	...	Nil
Albuminoid do.	...	...	...	0'0005
Nitrous do. (nitrites)	...	...	...	Nil
Nitric do. (nitrates)	...	...	...	0'40
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hours at 26'7° C	...	...	...	Nil

## BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

Number of organisms developing on:—

		Per Cubic Centimetre.
(a) Agar-agar media at 20° C	...	Total 0
		Liquefying
(b) Agar-agar media at 37° C	...	0

B. Coli. (presumptive test):—

Absent in 1'0, 5'0, 10'0, and 3 volumes of 20'0 cubic centimetres.

## OPINION.

When compared with the last analysis the only difference, and that a very slight one, is in respect of bicarbonate of soda content, which amounts to 8·2 grains per gallon. The supply is of excellent organic quality and shown to be sterile on bacteriological examination.

## SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

The only sewers laid during the year were in Clay Lanes, Haslington, draining houses erected by Mr. T. Martin, and in Cheshire Street, Audlem, from Little Heath to the existing sewerage system.

Several lengths of drains for the better drainage of the Council's houses have been laid in Alpraham, Audlem, and Blakenhall, and it is proposed to continue with these improvements at Hatherton, Chorley, and Bickerton.

The schemes for extending and improving the Sewage Disposal Works at Wistaston and Haslington have been held up pending a decision on the question of participation in a Joint Sewerage Scheme with the Crewe Corporation.

The laying of sewers in Clay Lanes and Far Heath, Haslington, Dig Lane and Stock Lane, Wybunbury, London Road, Stapeley, and Crewe Road and Cheerbrook Lane, Willaston, has been discussed by the Council but owing to their failure to arrive at a satisfactory solution of the financial aspect of this vital sewerage problem the areas appear destined to continue in their unsanitary condition for some time to come.

The sewerage of Audlem, Bunbury, Hough, Newhall, and Wrenbury is becoming an urgent matter, and if the policy of the Council towards meeting the expenses could be settled these schemes could then be carried out with advantage.

### HOUSING.

The number of houses built by private enterprise during the year 1938 is 135, the same number as in 1937, whereas in 1936 the number was 220.

No houses have been completed during the year under the Government Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1938, but grants have been approved in respect of 27 houses and applications are now before the Ministry respecting a further 6 houses.

Thirty houses have been erected by the Council to replace houses demolished under Demolition Orders.

Contracts have been entered into for the erection of the following houses to meet the demand under the Council's housing programme:—

Alpraham	...	...	6 houses.
Audlem	...	...	24 "
Burland	...	...	2 "
Blakenhall	...	...	4 "
Chorley	...	..	4 "
Cholmondeston .	...	...	2 "
Edleston	...	...	6 "
Faddiley	...	...	10 "
Hankelow	...	...	4 "
Haughton	...	...	4 "
Haslington	...	...	8 "
Hough	...	...	4 "
Minshull Vernon	...	...	6 "
Newhall	...	...	8 "
Wettenhall	...	...	4 "

Sites have been acquired for further houses as under:—

Bridgemere	...	...	4 houses.
Dodcott	...	...	4 "
Poole	...	...	6 "
Wrenbury	...	...	4 "

## 1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year:

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts), **343.**

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose, **920.**

(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932, **Nil.**

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose, **Nil.**

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation, **46.**

(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation, **91.**

## 2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers, **26.**

## 3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—

A.—Proceedings under sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs, **46.**

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—

(a) By owners, **32.**

(b) By local authority in default of owners, **Nil.**

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied, **Nil.**

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—

(a) By owners, **Nil.**

(b) By local authority in default of owners, **Nil.**



C.—Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made, **31**.
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders, **10**.

D.—Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:

- (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made, **4**.
- (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit, **Nil**.

4. Housing Act, 1936, Part 1V—Overcrowding:—

A.—(1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year, **30**.

(2) Number of families dwelling therein, **31**.

(3) Number of persons dwelling therein, **225**.

B.—Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year, **1**.

C.—(1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year, **8**.

(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases, **55**.

D.—Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding, **Nil**.

E.—Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report, **Nil**.

## RIVERS AND STREAMS POLLUTION.

Observation has shown that precautions taken in recent years have tended to a decrease in pollution and no action in this connection has been necessary during the year.

## **CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.**

There have been 48 voluntary conversions from conservancy system to water carriage, which leaves approximately 2,020 pails in the populous and closely built areas.

The Council have under consideration a Conversion Scheme, for which purpose a survey has been made and estimates for the works are now being compiled.

## **PUBLIC CLEANSING.**

On the 1st January, 1938, scavenging was carried out by direct labour in the following parishes, viz:—Willaston, Wistaston, Wybunbury, Rope, Shavington, Stapeley, Hough, and Basford.

The parishes of Audlem, Haslington, and Crewe Green were scavenged by contract.

Extensions and alterations have been made as follows:—

- (1) A scheme for scavenging the parishes of Weston and Chorlton by direct labour was commenced on 1st December, 1938, and is now working satisfactorily.
- (2) Since 1st April, 1938, Haslington parish has been scavenged by direct labour.
- (3) The populous and closely built areas of the parishes of Wardle and Stoke have been scavenged by contract since the 1st May, 1938.

## **SANITARY INSPECTION OF AREA.**

The report of the Sanitary Inspector, which deals fully with this matter, is attached hereto.

## **SHOPS AND OFFICES.**

Periodical inspections have been made and no infringements found.

## **CAMPING SITES.**

One Licence has been issued in connection with one site for camping purposes, with respect to one caravan occupied by one person.

## **SMOKE ABATEMENT.**

Observations have been taken but no nuisance has been found.

## SWIMMING BATHS.

There are no public or private swimming baths or pools in this area.

## ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

(1) Number of premises found to be infested:—

(a) Council houses: Nil.

(b) Other houses: One.

Number of premises disinfested: One.

(2) Method employed was the use of an insecticide known as "Zaldecide."

(3) Methods employed to ensure belongings of tenants free from vermin before removal to Council houses: Nil.

(4) Disinfestation was carried out by Local Authority.

(5) No measures were taken to educate tenants to prevent infestation or re-infestation after cleansing.

## SCHOOLS.

All schools in the area have a wholesome and adequate supply of water.

A survey of all schools has been made and as a result many improvements suggested have been carried out, e.g., flushing of urinals and paving of playgrounds.

Nine schools were closed on account of influenza, each for a period of two weeks.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

There are 659 farms licensed under the Accredited Milk Scheme, 1 Attested herd, and 14 producers of Tuberculin Tested milk.

The standard of cleanliness is found to be high and alteration and reconstruction of shippens is still progressing favourably, as is shown by the steady increase of Accredited producers.



Samples of milk are taken from retailers in the Rural District and these are tested for the presence of dirt and other extraneous matter.

Frequent inspections are made of the three Pasteurisation plants in the district and samples are taken regularly and submitted for examination.

Slaughterhouses and butchers' shops are regularly visited and the businesses are found to be carried on under clean and wholesome conditions.

### CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle, excluding Cows		Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number inspected ...	...	194	396	296	548	594
All diseases except Tuberculosis :						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	9	1	4	24	
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	5	—	5	—	
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ...	—	3·3%	0·34%	1·6%	4·0%	
Tuberculosis only :						
Whole carcasses condemned	9	32	1	—	4	
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	4	48	—	—	9	
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	6·7%	20·2%	0·34%	—	2·2%	

### FOODS AND DRUGS ACTS.

These Acts are administered by officials appointed by the County Council.

### NUTRITION.

No steps have been taken to increase knowledge on the above subject by this Authority.

### SHELL-FISH.

There are no shell-fish beds or layings in the district.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The total number of cases of infectious disease notified in the district was 103, as compared with 104 in 1937, and 207 for the year 1936.

There were 34 cases of Scarlet Fever, an increase of 3 cases on last year. Diphtheria cases numbered 35, showing a decrease of 7 cases on last year.

Six sputum specimens examined for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli were reported as positive.

Sixty specimens were examined for the presence of the Diphtheria Bacillus.

Two specimen faeces were examined for suspected paratyphoid but were proved negative.

Twenty-seven cases of Tuberculosis were notified: 15 were "Pulmonary" cases, and 12 "Non-Pulmonary" cases.

There have been 3 non-notified Tuberculosis deaths. The efficiency of notification of Tuberculosis in the area is satisfactory and no proceedings have been necessary for neglect to notify the disease.

## TUBERCULOSIS.

### NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1938.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory	Non-respiratory	Respiratory	Non-respiratory	Respiratory	Non-respiratory	Respiratory	Non-respiratory
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
1	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...
5	...	...	4	1	...	...	...	...
15	2	...	2	1	...	...	...	...
25	1	2	...	...	1	1	...	.
35	2	2	...	...	...	1	...	1
45	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
55	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	...
65 and upwards	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	11	4	8	4	3	2		1
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Total Cases, 27.

Total Deaths, 6.

There is no evidence of excessive incidence of mortality from any particular occupation in the area.

## DISTRIBUTION OF DISEASES IN THE DISTRICT, 1938.

Parish	Tuber- culosis		Erysipelas	Pneumonia	Diphtheria	Scarlet Fever	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Totals
	P.	N-P.						
Acton	-	...	...	...	2	...	...	2
Alraham	-	1	...	...	2	...	...	3
Audlem	-	...	...	4	...	4	...	12
Barthomley	-	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Bickerton	-	...	...	...	4	...	...	4
Bulkeley	-	...	...	...	...	2	...	2
Broomhall	-	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Buerton	-	...	...	...	1	...	1	2
Bunbury	-	1	2	...	4	2	...	11
Burlanrd	-	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Cholmondeston	-	...	...	...	1	1	...	2
Checkley	-	2	3	...	...	...	...	5
Church Minshull	-	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Coole Pilate	-	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Faddlley	-	...	...	...	2	1	...	3
Hankelow	-	...	...	1	2	...	2	5
Haslington	-	3	1	...	1	9	1	15
Hough	-	...	...	...	1	...	1	2
Haughton	-	...	...	...	1	3	1	5
Hatherton	-	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Minshull Vernon	-	...	...	...	1	...	1	2
Norbury	-	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Peckforton	-	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Ridley	-	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Shavington	-	...	...	...	2	...	5	1
Stapeley	-	...	...	1	...	1	...	3
Spurstow	-	...	1	...	...	3	1	5
Wardle	-	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Warmingham	-	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
Walgherton	-	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Weston	-	1	...	...	1	2	...	6
Worleston	-	...	...	...	...	1	4	5
Willaston	-	2	...	...	...	...	...	2
Wistaston	-	4	1	...	...	4	...	9
Wrenbury	-	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Wybunbury	-	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Woolstanwood	-	1	1	...	...	...	...	2
Totals	—	15	12	6	24	35	34	130

The following is a tabular statement of the cases of notifiable diseases which were reported during the year:—

Disease	Cases Notified	Removed to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever ...	34	31	1
Diphtheria ...	35	34	1
Pneumonia ...	24	—	17
Puerperal Pyrexia	4	—	—
Erysipelas ...	6	—	—

#### CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE SHOWING THE INCIDENCE OF CASES IN VARIOUS AGE PERIODS.

Disease.	All ages.	Under 1 yr.	1 to 2 yrs.	2 to 3 yrs.	3 to 4 yrs.	4 to 5 yrs.	5 to 10 yrs.	10 to 15 yrs.	15 to 20 yrs.	20 to 35 yrs.	35 to 45 yrs.	45 to 65 yrs.	65 and over
Scarlet Fever	34 ...	1	1	1	3	3	12	7	1	3	—	2	—
Diphtheria ...	35 ...	—	—	2	1	2	12	7	4	3	2	2	—
Pneumonia ...	24 ...	—	1	—	—	—	4	2	2	2	5	6	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	4 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—
Erysipelas ...	6 ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	2	1
Totals	103 ...	1	2	3	4	5	29	16	7	12	9	12	3

#### PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

No action has been taken by this Authority.

I have again to record that immediate attention should be given to the sewerage facilities at London Road, Stapeley.

The sewerage of the Far Heath and Winterley areas of Haslington is becoming increasingly urgent by the development of these areas for building purposes.

I must also draw attention to the necessity for comprehensive sewerage and sewage disposal schemes in the parishes of Audlem, Hough, and Wybunbury.

OLIVER H. BLACKLAY, M.D., F.R.C.S. Edin.,

Temporary Medical Officer of Health.

Nantwich,

May, 1939.

# Sanitary Inspector's Report.

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To the Chairman and Members of the Nantwich  
Rural District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my fourth Annual Report for the year ending December 31st, 1938.

## INSPECTIONS.

Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	920
Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	954
Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, 1915; the Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922; The Milk and Dairies Order, 1926	...				449
					<hr/> 2,323

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following cases of infectious disease have been investigated:—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	34
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	35
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	4
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	6
Tuberculosis Deaths	...	...	...	...	9

Disinfection was carried out in each case and investigation entailed 112 visits.

## PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

Statutory Notices served	...	...	...	13
Informal Notices served	...	...	...	139

## DEFECTS REMEDIED UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS AND HOUSING ACTS.

Wooden erections obstructing light and ventilation removed	8				
New door steps provided	...	...	...	...	7
Defective floors made good	...	...	...	...	21
Defective plaster made good	...	...	...	...	10
Defective window frames made good	...	...	...	...	13
Sash cords provided	...	...	...	...	5
Sinks provided with water laid over	...	...	...	...	3
Provision of foodstores	...	...	...	...	9
Closet structures repaired	...	...	...	...	3
Washing boilers repaired	...	...	...	...	2

DEFECTS REMEDIED—*continued.*

Defective sink waste pipes repaired	...	...	...	5
Defective pointing and brickwork	...	...	...	10
Steps taken to eradicate dampness	...	...	...	2
Ventilation	...	...	...	3
Insanitary drainage	...	...	...	21
Firegrates repaired or renewed	...	...	...	6
Provision of refuse accommodation	...	...	..	186
Defective staircases repaired or renewed	...	...	...	2
New closet pails provided	...	...	...	5
Provision of washing boilers	...	..	...	3
Defective doors made good	...	...	...	2
Eaves-guttering examined and repaired and renewed	...	...	...	1

The above does not include works of improvement or repairs carried out in cases of complete reconstruction.

**REFUSE ACCOMMODATION.**

In all parishes where scavenging is in operation ashbins are provided at nearly all premises.

**CONNECTIONS TO SEWERS.**

Connections to the Council's sewers have been made in 60 instances:

Basford	...	...	...	5
Wistaston	...	...	...	48
Shavington	...	...	...	5
Willaston	...	..	...	2

Notices were served in respect to 55 of the above cases.

**CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.**

Pail closets converted to water carriage	...	...	48
Number of pail closets in populous areas (approx.)	..	2,020	

**SCAVENGING.**

Eleven parishes are scavenged by direct labour with horse-drawn vehicles, and four by contract.

The approximate number of ashbins and closet pails emptied are as follows:—

Ashbins (fortnightly)	...	..	...	4,233
Closet pails (weekly)	...	...	...	1,518
Privies (quarterly)	...	...	...	7
Ashpits (quarterly)	..	...	...	19

No difficulties have been experienced in the disposal of nightsoil or dry refuse, suitable sites being available in all districts.

## FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Report on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, and the Factories Act, 1937 (which superseded the Act of 1901 on 1st July, 1938).

### 1.—INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH.

Including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices (3)	Occupiers. prosecuted. (4)
Factories with mechanical power ...	97	17	—
Factories without mechanical power ..	52	5	—
† Other Premises under the Act ... (including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises).	7	7	—
† Electrical Stations should be reckoned as factories.			
Totals ...	156	29	—

### 2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars. (1)	Number of defects.			Number of defects in respect of which prosecutions were institut'd. (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Want of cleanliness (S. 1) ...	2	2	—	—
Overcrowding (S. 2) ...	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3) ...	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S. 4) ...	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6) ...	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7):				
Insufficient ...	9	5	—	—
Unsuitable or defective ...	11	8	—	—
Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—
Other offences:	—	—	—	—
(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937).				
Totals ...	22	15	—	—



## ANTHRAX.

There have been 119 suspected cases notified, and of these 7 were confirmed, the remainder being withdrawn. Visits were paid to the infected premises to ensure proper disinfection and cremation of carcasses.

On the 2nd of March, 1938, notification was received from the Police that a beast slaughtered on a farmer's premises had been found to be affected with Anthrax at a licensed slaughterhouse in this area.

On inspection of the premises it was found that in the slaughterhouse there were the dressed carcasses of 12 pigs, 24 calves, and 2 beasts, including the diseased carcass. In an adjoining open shed there were the dressed carcasses of 15 pigs, 10 calves, and 1 beast.

In view of the fact that slaughter was known to have continued for three hours after the dressing of the diseased animal all dressed carcasses on the premises were condemned as unfit for food of man, and were destroyed on the premises by burning following the receipt of a Magistrate's order.

## SWINE FEVER.

No cases were notified.

## OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Only one offensive trade exists in this area—a tripe-boiling establishment. Frequent visits are paid and the place is kept in a satisfactory condition.

## SHOPS ACT.

In one instance a certificate of exemption has been issued with respect to sanitary conveniences.

## CANAL BOATS.

No applications were received for the registration of any canal boat. Twelve visits have been made to the canal and 17 boats were inspected. All were found to be free from infectious disease and no infringements were detected. The occupants were as follows:—

Men	...	...	...	...	...	23
Women	...	...	...	...	...	14
Children	...	...	...	...	...	7



## PETROLEUM ACTS.

Two new licences were granted; sixty-two were renewed for storage of petroleum. Capacity is provided for the maximum storage of 55,450 gallons of petroleum.

Five licences for the storage of carbide of calcium were renewed; no new licences were granted.

## HOUSING ACTS.

During the year notices of "Time and Place" under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, have been served with respect to 45 houses. Demolition Orders have also been made with respect to 32 houses.

Under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1936, 46 Statutory Notices were served with respect to 46 houses.

The following indicates the position at the end of the year in consequence of action under the Housing Acts:—

(1) Houses demolished	...	...	...	...	22
(2) Persons displaced under (1)	...	...	...	...	64
(3) Number of dwelling houses made fit	...	...	...	...	157
(4) Houses demolished in anticipation of formal action	...	...	...	...	10
(5) Houses closed	...	...	...	...	5
(6) Houses made fit as a result of informal action	...	...	...	...	103

In all cases where action has been taken under the Housing Act, 1936, the facilities for reconditioning cottages under the Housing (Rural Workers) Acts have been brought to the notice of the owners concerned and during the year 34 houses in the area have been reconditioned or reconstructed with the aid of grants.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

### MILK SUPPLY.

The administration of the Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, 1915, the Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922, and the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926:

The following samples were taken from retailers in the district and submitted to the "Minit Sediment" test, with the following results:—

Number of samples taken	...	...	...	...	16
„ „ samples found to be clean	...	...	...	...	10
„ „ samples found to be slightly contaminated	...	...	...	...	6

At the end of the year there were 1,278 farms on the register. Four hundred and forty-nine inspections have been made and 40 notices have been served under the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926. The compliance with notices served continues to be very satisfactory. There are now 659 "Accredited" producers in the area.

Sixteen samples of pasteurised milk produced in the area were taken, all of which complied with the standard.

#### MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1936.

The number of licences granted or renewed under the above Order are as follows:—

"Pasteurised" ... ..	3
"Tuberculin Tested" (Bottler's Licence) ...	3
"Tuberculin Tested" (Supplementary) ...	1
"Accredited" (Bottler's Licence) ... ..	1

#### SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION.

There are 4 registered and 32 licensed slaughterhouses in the area; all are regularly visited, and found to be in good order. For particulars of meat inspected see report of the Medical Officer of Health.

Under the Tuberculosis Order, 1925, notifications were received in respect of 45 animals. On attending the post-mortem examinations 21 carcasses were passed as fit for food.

#### FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

This Act is administered by officials appointed by the County Council.

#### WATER ANALYSIS.

One sample of well water has been taken and submitted to the County Analysts for examination and for an opinion as to the advisability of using it for domestic purposes.

Result of analysis:—

Unsatisfactory both chemically and bacteriologically. Necessary action was taken in the case.

I am, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN S. TOWNLEY,

Sanitary Inspector.



